

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

09/721,220

Examiner

INDER P. MEHRA

Applicant(s)

BAJWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2617

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERIT IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE and amendment dated: 12/3/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 22,29-32,37-38,23,33-35,24,36,39(Renumbered as 1-14 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Inder P Mehra/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to RCE along with amendment dated:12/3/2008. Based on this RCE, out of claims 1-39, claims 1-21 and 25-28 are cancelled and claims 37-39 are newly added. Claims 22-24 and 29-39 are, therefore, pending.
2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with H. Dale Langley, JR. on 2/12/09.

Following changes have been made:

Claim 22 has been replaced with the following claim:

Claim 22 (currently amended): A method of operating voice traffic bearing packet switched network, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a gateway of ~~to~~ the packet-switched network a call originated from a voice terminal connected to the gateway, the call comprising a call initiation information and the call initiation information comprising a call destination identifier of the packet-switched network for a call destination;

packetizing the call at the gateway, if the call is not packetized as received by the gateway;

querying by the gateway over the packet-switched network to a gatekeeper of the packet-switched network, the gatekeeper controls communication of the call over the packet-switched network;

responding by the gatekeeper to the gateway over the packet-switched network, in respect of the step of querying by the gateway, with a network address of the packet-switched network for a centralized feature platform of the packet-switched network, the centralized feature platform capable of performing a call service for the call;

directing the call by the gateway, in response to the gatekeeper, over the packet-switched network, to the centralized feature platform having the network address of the packet-switched network for the centralized feature platform;

determining by the centralized feature platform if the call service should be performed for the call by the centralized feature platform;

(i) performing the call service by the centralized feature platform for the call, if the centralized feature platform determines that the call service applies for the call;

(ii) skipping the step of performing the call service if the centralized feature platform determines that the call service does not apply for the call;

requesting by the centralized feature platform a network routing information of the packet-switched network for the call from the gatekeeper, after ~~either of~~ the step of performing and the step of skipping, respectively, as applicable for the call;

responding by the gatekeeper with a network destination address of the packet-switched network for the call, whereby:—(i) if the call is permissible, the network destination address corresponds to the call destination identifier, ~~and (ii) if the call is not permitted, the network destination address does not correspond to the call destination identifier;~~

disassociating ~~dissoeciating~~ the call from the centralized feature platform after the step of responding;

routing the call, disassociated ~~dissoeciated~~ from the centralized feature platform, over the packet-switched network per network protocols, to the network destination address for the call; and

connecting the call if the call is permitted, by the packet-switched network per network protocols of the packet-switched network via the network destination address for the call destination identifier, between the gateway and a target device corresponding to the call destination.

Claim 23 has been replaced with following claim:

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method of operating voice traffic bearing packet switched network, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving at a gateway to the packet-switched network, an information stream including encoded voice-band traffic of a call, the information stream comprising a destination identifier for a target device for voice traffic between the gateway and the target device;

querying by the gateway to a gatekeeper, the gatekeeper routes the call on the packet-switched network;

responding by the gatekeeper to the gateway, with a network address for a centralized feature platform;

directing the call to the centralized feature platform;

authenticating a credential associated with the call, to determine whether a call service should be provided for the call by the centralized feature platform;

upon authentication, performing the call service for the call by the centralized feature platform;

~~disassociating~~ ~~disassociating~~ the centralized feature platform from the call after the step of performing the call service;

routing the call, after the step of ~~disassociating~~ ~~disassociating~~, via the packet-switched network, unless the call service terminates the call, to either: (i) connect the call to the target device of the destination identifier via a network address for the target device, over the packet-switched network, and (ii) connect the call to a separate device via a network address for the separate device, over the packet-switched network.

Claim 24 has been replaced with following claim:

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of operating voice traffic bearing packet switched network, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a gateway to the packet-switched network, a call comprising an information stream representable by encoded voice-band traffic, the information stream

originating from a voice terminal communicatively connected to the gateway and the information stream comprising an identifier of a second voice terminal for receipt of the call;

directing by the gateway an encoded voice-band traffic, corresponding to at least a portion of the information stream, over the packet-switched network to a gatekeeper, the gatekeeper capable of routing the call;

authenticating the call by the gatekeeper for a call service, via the encoded voice-band traffic;

upon authentication of the call by the gatekeeper for the call service, directing the call to a centralized feature platform ~~for the call service~~;

performing the call service for the call by the centralized feature platform;

~~disassociating~~ ~~dissociating~~ the centralized feature platform from the call after the step of performing the call service;

next directing the encoded voice-band traffic of the call over the packet-switched network to a target device, wherein the packet-switched network routes the encoded voice-band traffic of the call via the identifier for the second voice terminal;

further receiving at the gateway a next information stream representable by next encoded voice-band traffic, the next information stream originating from the voice terminal communicatively connected to the gateway;

next directing at least a portion of a next encoded voice-band traffic, corresponding to at least a portion of the next information stream, by the packet-switched network to the target device via the identifier;

receiving at least a portion of the next information stream at the second voice terminal communicatively connected to the target device, over the packet-switched network.

Claim 36 has been replaced with following claim:

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method of servicing a packetized data voice call made over a packet-switched network, the network routes the packetized data voice call per network protocols and addresses, comprising the steps of:

initiating the packetized data voice call at a gateway to the network, the voice call includes an identifier of a call recipient;

receiving that call at a gatekeeper router of the network;

directing the packetized data voice call via the network, in response to the gatekeeper router, from the gateway to a centralized feature server capable of a call service for the packetized data voice call;

determining by the centralized feature server whether the packetized data voice call is appropriate for the call service, based on a caller information from the gateway;

if the packetized data voice call is determined as appropriate for the call service, performing the call service for the packetized data voice call by the centralized feature server;

disassociating the centralized feature server from the packetized data voice call after the step of performing the call service, if appropriate for the packetized data voice call;

if the packetized data voice call is determined as not appropriate for the call service,

~~disassociating~~ ~~dissociating~~ the centralized feature server from the packetized data voice call; ~~(i) after the step of performing the call service, if appropriate for the packetized data voice call; and (ii) otherwise, after the step of~~ determining the packetized data voice call is not appropriate for the call service; routing the voice call by the network after the step of ~~disassociating~~ ~~dissociating~~, from the gateway to a destination address of the network for the identifier; and connecting the call between the gateway and the destination address by the packet-switched network via the destination address.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 22-24 and 29-39 are allowed.

Prior Art of Record

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Havinis et al (US Pub. no. 2003/0202521) discloses a telecommunications system and method for converting between networks for multi-media purposes by adding an attribute to the call control protocol to indicate the multi-media coding of the calling subscriber.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not disclose, teach or suggest directly, or indirectly the following limitations in combinations with other limitations of the claims, as follows:

As recited by claim 22,

directing the call by the gateway, in response to the gatekeeper, over the packet-switched network, to the centralized feature platform having the network address of the packet-switched network for the centralized feature platform;

determining by the centralized feature platform if the call service should be performed for the call by the centralized feature platform;

(i) performing the call service by the centralized feature platform for the call, if the centralized feature platform determines that the call service applies for the call;

(ii) skipping the step of performing the call service if the centralized feature platform determines that the call service does not apply for the call;

requesting by the centralized feature platform a network routing information of the packet-switched network for the call from the gatekeeper, after either of the step of performing and the step of skipping, respectively, as applicable for the call;

responding by the gatekeeper with a network destination address of the packet-switched network for the call, whereby: (i) if the call is permissible, the network destination address corresponds to the call destination identifier, and (ii) if the call is not permitted, the network destination address does not correspond to the call destination identifier;

disassociating dissociating the call from the centralized feature platform after the step of responding;
routing the call, disassociated dissociated from the centralized feature platform, over the packet-switched network per network protocols, to the network destination address for the call.

As recited by claim 23,

directing the call to the centralized feature platform;
authenticating a credential associated with the call, to determine whether a call service should be provided for the call by the centralized feature platform;
upon authentication, performing the call service for the call by the centralized feature platform;
disassociating dissociating the centralized feature platform from the call after the step of performing the call service;

As recited by claim 24,

upon authentication of the call by the gatekeeper for the call service, directing the call to a centralized feature platform for the call service;
performing the call service for the call by the centralized feature platform;
disassociating dissociating the centralized feature platform from the call after the step of performing the call service;
next directing the encoded voice-band traffic of the call over the packet-switched network to a target device, wherein the packet-switched network routes the encoded voice-band traffic of the call via the identifier for the second voice terminal;

further receiving at the gateway a next information stream representable by next encoded voice-band traffic, the next information stream originating from the voice terminal communicatively connected to the gateway;
next directing at least a portion of a next encoded voice-band traffic, corresponding to at least a portion of the next information stream, by the packet-switched network to the target device via the identifier;

As recited by claim 36,

directing the packetized data voice call via the network, in response to the gatekeeper router, from the gateway to a centralized feature server capable of a call service for the packetized data voice call;
determining by the centralized feature server whether the packetized data voice call is appropriate for the call service, based on a caller information from the gateway;
if the packetized data voice call is determined as appropriate for the call service, performing the call service for the packetized data voice call by the centralized feature server;
disassociating the centralized feature server from the packetized data voice call after the step of performing the call service, if appropriate for the packetized data voice call;
if the packetized data voice call is determined as not appropriate for the call service, disassociating dissociating the centralized feature server from the packetized data voice call: (i) after the step of performing the call service, if appropriate for the packetized data voice call; and (ii) otherwise, after the step of determining the packetized data voice call is not appropriate for the call service;

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to INDER P. MEHRA whose telephone number is (571)272-3170. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on 571-272-7023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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